

SPERGULA MORISONII IN AMERICA

In 1944, Fernald first reported the occurrence of *Spergula pentandra* L. (Caryophyllaceae) in America, from a collection made by O. H. Brown at the Cold Spring Cemetery, Cape May, New Jersey, on April 8, 1942. A description and illustration (based on European specimens at NY) of *S. pentandra* were included by Maguire (1952) in the New Britton and Brown Illustrated Flora.

In the spring of 1965, I collected a *Spergula* at Lakehurst, New Jersey. The plants had seeds with conspicuous wings, and were tentatively identified as *S. pentandra*. They belong, rather, to the closely related *S. morisonii* Boreau (1847), as determined by Dr. Arthur Cronquist of the New York Botanical Garden. *Spergula morisonii* is reported here for the first time in America.

Spergula morisonii differs from *S. pentandra* chiefly in the obtuse, slightly overlapping petals, and the brownish, striate wing of the seed. The petals of *S. pentandra* are acute, not overlapping, and the seed is surrounded by a striking, white wing. Examination of the NY specimens of both species indicates considerable blurring of these distinctions in European material. If, however, the two are considered distinct, the Lakehurst plants are certainly *S. morisonii*. The Brown specimen (GH) has immature seeds, but another collection, also at GH, from North Carolina (*H. E. Ahles* 52617) shows typical, mature seeds of *S. pentandra*.

Collection data for the Lakehurst plants are as follows: In ballast along railroad tracks at Lakehurst, Ocean County, New Jersey. G. L. Smith 2377. April 30, 1965 (NY).

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REVISED CHECK-LIST OF THE VASCULAR PLANTS OF MAINE¹

This new up-to-date amplified and corrected check-list of the vascular flora of Maine is a welcome contribution. It is a pleasure to note that the volume is dedicated to Ralph C. Bean whose scholarly contributions to New England botany and particularly that of Maine are too numerous to summarize here. Indeed the preparation of the revised check-list is primarily the result of Mr. Bean's painstaking study of specimens and recording of records from Maine in the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club.

Many of the obvious deficiencies of the earlier check-list², which serves as an exact model for the present volume, have been corrected; the list is much more complete; introduced species appear now with an asterisk before the specific epithet and some of the arboreal species that were listed in the earlier volume such as *Ginkgo biloba* and *Sciadopitys verticillata* are thankfully omitted. In the years intervening since the first list, certainly most of the extant herbarium material must have been studied. We can happily be confident that this is not a rush job; it is a dependable list which will serve as a secure base for further collections. It is to be noted that the late Dr. Anne Perkins of South Berwick, Maine who was particularly dissatisfied with the earlier list because of the many omissions, sent to the pres-

¹Ralph C. Bean, Richards, Charles D. and Hyland, Fay. Revised Check-list of the Vascular Plants of Maine. Josselyn Bot. Soc. Me. Bull. No. 8 71 pp. Orono, Me. July 1966.

²E. C. Ogden, Steinmetz, F. H. and Hyland, F. Check-list of the Vascular Plants of Maine. Josselyn Bot. Soc. Me. Bull. No. 8. 1948.